includes:

a heating plate to receive said at least one medical item thereon and to distribute heat within said compartment and to said at least one medical item;

a heater affixed and applying heat to said heating plate; and

a temperature sensor to measure a temperature of said heating plate; and

a controller to facilitate entry of a desired temperature and to control a thermal output of said heater to heat at least one medical item to said entered desired temperature based on said temperature measured by said temperature sensor;

wherein said heating plate includes a medical item support platform to support at least one medical item within said heating compartment and a plurality of secondary conducting walls and said heater is attached to and covers selected portions of said medical item support platform to directly apply heat to said medical item support platform; and

wherein said secondary conducting walls are attached to said medical item support platform at locations outside said selected portions and receive said applied heat through conduction from said medical item support platform, and wherein said medical item support platform and said secondary conducting walls distribute heat in a substantially uniform manner to said at least one medical item disposed between said secondary conducting walls.

2. (Amended) The temperature control system of claim 1, wherein said heating plate has a generally U-shaped configuration with said medical item support platform including a thermally conductive bottom wall and said secondary conducting walls including two thermally conductive side walls extending from said bottom wall, and wherein said heater is affixed to said bottom wall.